Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

identify a page layout template having a plurality of dimensions including one or more variable dimensions, the template lacking a size specification for the variable dimensions and including at least one box having one or more adjustable metrics in the variable dimensions specifying at least one of a size of the box and a distance from the box to any other boxes, wherein the adjustable metrics of the at least one box include a synthesized metric, a synthesized metric being a metric whose value is defined as a function of the size of one or more boxes contained within the at least one box when the contained boxes have been filled with content;

receive user input specifying a size for each variable dimension of the template and fix a the size for each variable dimension of the template based on the received user input; and

adjust the metrics of the box based on the sizes without adjusting the synthesized metric.

2. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 1, wherein the page layout template includes a plurality of boxes having a hierarchical relationship, and wherein the instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

adjust the metrics of the boxes in hierarchical order.

3. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 2, wherein the instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

adjust the metrics of the boxes independently in each dimension.

4. (Original) The computer program product of claim 2, wherein the instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to adjust comprise instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

adjust the metrics of the boxes, first in one dimension, and then in another dimension.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 4, further comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

terminate adjusting of a particular box and its child boxes in a given dimension when the particular box has a synthesized metric in the given dimension, a synthesized metric being a metric whose value is defined as a function of the size of its child boxes when the child boxes have been filled with content.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 5, further comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

flow content into the child boxes and adjust the synthesized metric of the particular box based on the size of the child boxes.

7. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

identifying a page layout template having a plurality of dimensions including one or more variable dimensions, the template lacking a size specification for the variable dimensions and including at least one box having one or more adjustable metrics in the variable dimensions specifying at least one of a size of the box and a distance from the box to any other boxes, wherein the adjustable metrics of the at least one box include a synthesized metric, a synthesized

metric being a metric whose value is defined as a function of the size of one or more boxes contained within the at least one box when the contained boxes have been filled with content;

receiving user input specifying a size for each variable dimension of the template and fixing ~~a~~ the size for each variable dimension of the template based on the received user input; and

adjusting the metrics of the box based on the sizes without adjusting the synthesized metric.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the page layout template includes a plurality of boxes having a hierarchical relationship, and wherein the adjusting step comprises:

adjusting the metrics of the boxes in hierarchical order.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the adjusting step comprises:

adjusting the metrics of the boxes independently in each dimension.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the adjusting step comprises:

adjusting the metrics of the boxes, first in the one dimension, and then in another dimension.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

terminating adjusting of a particular box and its child boxes in a given dimension when the particular box has a synthesized metric in the given dimension, a synthesized metric being a metric whose value is defined as a function of the size of its child boxes when the child boxes have been filled with content.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

flowing content into the child boxes and adjust the synthesized metric of the particular box based on the size of the child boxes.

13. (New) The computer program product of claim 1, wherein the synthesized metric is the height of the at least one box and is defined as the sum of the heights of one or more boxes contained within the at least one box when the contained boxes have been filled with content.

14. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the synthesized metric is the height of the at least one box and is defined as the sum of the heights of one or more boxes contained within the at least one box when the contained boxes have been filled with content.